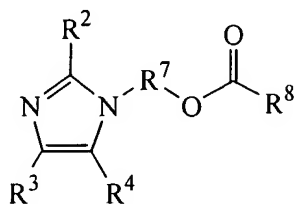


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (cancelled) .

2. (currently amended) A positive-working resist composition comprising:

(A) at least one basic compound represented by the general formula (3):



(3)

wherein R², R³ and R⁴ are each independently a hydrogen atom, a straight, branched or cyclic alkyl group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an aryl group of 6 to 10 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group of 7 to 10 carbon atoms; R⁷ is a straight, branched or cyclic alkylene group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R⁸ is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group of 1 to 15 carbon atoms which may contain at least one group selected from among hydroxyl, carbonyl, ester, ether, sulfide, carbonate, cyano and acetal groups;

(B) an organic solvent;

(C) a base resin having an acid labile group-protected acidic functional group which is alkali-insoluble or substantially alkali-insoluble, but becomes alkali-soluble when the acid labile group is eliminated; and

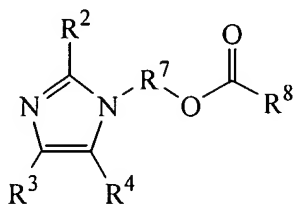
(D) a photoacid generator.

3. (cancelled).

4. (currently amended) The positive resist composition of claim 2, ~~[[3]]~~ which further comprises (E) a dissolution inhibitor.

5. (currently amended) A negative-working resist composition comprising:

(A) ~~the basic compound of claim 2~~ at least one basic compound represented by the general formula (3):



(3)

wherein R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each independently a hydrogen atom, a straight, branched or cyclic alkyl group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an aryl group of 6 to 10 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group of 7 to 10 carbon atoms; R^7 is a straight, branched or cyclic alkylene group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R^8 is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group of 1 to 15 carbon atoms which may contain at least one group selected from among hydroxyl, carbonyl, ester, ether, sulfide, carbonate, cyano and acetal groups;

(B) an organic solvent;

(C') a base resin which is alkali-soluble, but becomes substantially alkali-insoluble when crosslinked with a crosslinking agent;

(D) a photoacid generator; and

(F) a crosslinking agent which induces crosslinkage under the action of an acid.

6. (cancelled).

7. (cancelled).

8. (cancelled).

9. (cancelled).

10. -12. (cancelled).

13. (cancelled).

14. (cancelled).